

26 have been added. Reconsideration of this application is requested.

The rejection of claims 19-22 as being unpatentable over Wiedeman, U.S. Patent No. 5,303,286 in view of Crane et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,533,097 is respectfully traversed. Claims 23-26 substantially correspond to claims 19-22 except for the elimination of certain means-plus-function terminology, and these claims are thus included in the traversal of the rejection.

Wiedeman discloses an integrated terrestrial cellular/satellite communication system, wherein cellular satellite telephones 501 (see Fig. 4) include a cellular telephone 503 with associated antenna 505 for communicating with a terrestrial cellular telephone system 102, and also include a satellite control unit 531 with associated RF converter 521 and antenna 523 for communicating with a communication satellite (301, 302) of a satellite communication system. Wiedeman discloses that the cellular satellite telephone communicates with the satellite system when the user notifies the system that the user desires to be placed in a database of roaming users and that the user will be exiting the service area of a terrestrial system (see col. 6, ll. 6-14).

The Office action asserts that it would have been obvious to apply the "portable unit communication technique" allegedly

disclosed in Crane et al. to the system of Wiedeman "for the purpose of allowing the phone to be more compact when only communicating with a closer, more local system."

Crane et al. disclose the use of a portable housing, such as a briefcase, to contain a local-area RF communication unit, and a wide-area RF communication unit. Both the local-area RF unit and the wide-area RF unit are selectively controlled by a microprocessor 301 (Fig. 3). The local-area unit is able to communicate with personal communication devices (PCDs) within a local area such as 100 feet of the portable housing. One of the PCDs is, for example, a wireless handset 105 (Fig. 1).

The wide-area RF unit includes a transmitter and/or receiver for each wide-area communications system with which communications are desired. The wide-area communications system includes, for example, a cellular telephone system. As shown in Fig. 2, the portable housing includes a compartment 207 for storing the wireless handset 105. As explained in Crane, the wireless handset provides voice communications to the portable briefcase 101 (col. 2, ll. 48-51).

Contrary to the interpretation of the Crane reference in the Office action, there is no disclosure of a portable set for providing communications through a terrestrial wireless communication system, that is also disconnectably connected to a

satellite transceiver. The Office action interprets the terrestrial communication system as claimed in the present application as being the same as the "local area" communication system of Crane. This interpretation is improper. The wireless handset 105 can communicate only with the briefcase 101, and cannot communicate through a terrestrial wireless communication system. In contrast, the terrestrial communication system as defined in the present application is a portable phone system such as GSM, not a private local communication system in which communications are allowed only between a handset and a transceiver.

Further, as shown in Fig. 3, both the local-area communication unit 305 and the wide-area communication unit 303 are permanently connected to the microprocessor 301. There is no disclosure in Crane et al. that the local-area communication unit 305 may be disconnected from the microprocessor 301. Neither is there any disclosure in Crane that the wireless handset 105 is ever connected to either the local-area communication unit or the wide-area communication unit.

Moreover, in Crane the handset does not have access to the local-area communication system when the handset is more than 100 feet away from the briefcase. In the portable set described in the present application, however, the terrestrial communication

system is available regardless of its distance from the satellite transceiver. As such, there exists no teaching or suggestion in the Crane reference to make any modification of the Wiedeman system, contrary to the position of the Examiner, since Crane does not disclose a "portable unit communication technique" as construed by the Examiner.

Further, one of ordinary skill in the art would not have attempted to modify the wireless satellite cellular telephone of Wiedeman to make the terrestrial cellular telephone disconnectable from the satellite transceiver, since the Wiedeman system is intended to be used as a roaming system for a terrestrial cellular user who travels into an area not served by any terrestrial system. In other words, the user of the Wiedeman system is a terrestrial communication system subscriber. Thus, if the cellular telephone were disconnected from the satellite control unit, the entire purpose of the Wiedeman system would be defeated. This fact precludes such a modification from being obvious within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 103.

In view of the foregoing, claims 19-26 are respectfully submitted to define subject matter that is patentable over the prior art of record, whether considered individually or in combination. Withdrawal of the outstanding grounds of rejection and the issuance of a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

In response to the reminder that the present reissue application cannot be allowed without the surrender of the original patent, applicants herewith submit the original patent deed.

Please charge any fee or credit any overpayment pursuant to 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 02-2135.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosure(s): Original Deed of U.S. Patent No. 5,535,430